



# Reminder

December 2011

Trinity United Methodist Church

## Preparing for Christmas

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Ralston, NE 68127  
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Sunday Worship  
8:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m.

By now you have heard the latest Black Friday horror story. In an effort to make sure she procured that perfect Christmas present for her loved one, a certain Wal-Mart shopper felt the need to pepper-spray her competition. A total of 14 of her fellow customers were found themselves directly in the line of fire, while 10 more suffered various effects of her actions. Reports tell us that after the attack, with no one now to stop her from obtaining her prize, she calmly walked to the cashier and made her purchase. And while there has been no confirmation, it is said that the highly coveted gift is now nicely wrapped and sitting under a beautifully decorated tree waiting to be opened.

Fortunately this little incident speaks for itself. There is not a lot of need to pontificate on it one way or another. All of us realize the absurdity of her actions. Let me simply say that there are better ways to go about our preparations for this time of year. As you might imagine, none of them include pepper spray. Might I suggest spending time with those whose loved ones are far away? Perhaps you can volunteer at the local food bank. Maybe you can take that Bible that hasn't been opened for awhile and read the first two chapters of Matthew and Luke. What about spending some time in prayer? Or how about joining your fellow travelers for worship? Please know that your church offers a variety of ways for you to prepare for the season. Here are just a few:

- December 11<sup>th</sup> – Advent Worship – 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
- December 18<sup>th</sup> – “Bethlehem...Nothing Ever Happens Here!” – A Christmas Musical present by the Trinity Choir and friends – 10 a.m.
- December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve Worship – 5:30 and 11:00 p.m.
- December 25<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Day Worship – 10:00 a.m.

I hope to see you preparing for the coming of Jesus on the above dates—sans pepper spray, of course.

Tom



The month of December always seems to be full of people to see and places to be. Here at Trinity is no exception. In order to make sure I mention everything, I have listed below the important dates concerning children's activities.

**4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>: Sunday School and iWEB as normal**

**11<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Play Practice at the beginning of Sunday School at 10am**

**14<sup>th</sup>: Dress rehearsal at 6pm following meal at 5:30pm**

**18<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Program during service at 10am (No Sunday School)**

**25<sup>th</sup>: No Sunday School in honor of the Holiday**

Sunday School will resume on January 8<sup>th</sup> at 10am. iWEB will also begin again the same week on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. While mentioning the month of January, please mark Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> on your calendars. We will be hosting a family movie night at 5:30pm. Details as to the movie being shown will be released within the next couple of weeks.

The Children's Ministry Team prays that for you and your family this Advent season will be one of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Merry Christmas,

Matthew Hindley

"G" Alley, Trinity's new youth center is taking shape! If you haven't been downstairs recently, the walls are up and drywall is finished. Now it's time to prime the walls!

We will have a "painting party" Sunday, December 4th, from noon to 2 pm. If we get enough people, we should be able to finish it in a couple of hours. Please contact Deb Groesser, [402-592-6552](tel:402-592-6552), or email [deb@debragroesser.com](mailto:deb@debragroesser.com) if you plan to attend so we can have enough rollers for everyone.

Deb will be selling her "Trinity 100" paintings between services in December. \$107 each (\$100 each plus \$7 tax). 100% of the proceeds go to the youth center. Almost \$7,000 of the \$10,000 needed has been raised so far. You can also view the paintings on Deb's website, [DebraGroesser.com](http://DebraGroesser.com). Go to "Paintings", then "Trinity 100" Collection. Thanks so much for your help and support!

Holidays are here, People are hungry, We have a boat. Let's fill it with food, personal products, and any non-perishables. This year the mission team is sponsoring a family and anyone willing and able to help, please contact Judy Dappen at 402-331-1070.

## **Music Notes**

Our Chancel Choir will be participating in the Annual Community Carol Concert to be held this year at St Paul's United Methodist Church in Papillion. Choirs from surrounding churches share their Christmas anthems and conclude with the singing of Handel's hallelujah Chorus. The event begins @ 7pm , Sunday, December 11th. Plan to arrive early if you want a parking place.

Join us as we celebrate Christmas here at Trinity on Sunday, December 18th. Begin the day with Special Christmas brunch prepared by Don Johnson, followed by a special worship service in the Community Center. We will involve all of our children plus our Chancel Choir as we sing & share the love...wondering...What ever happens in Bethlehem????

*Do you play a musical instrument? Want to join the Christmas Eve Orchestra? We will rehearse on Saturday, December 17th @ 1pm. Bring your horn, flute, violin.....join us! We will play prior to Christmas eve worship.*

**Remember to Mark Down the following dates:**

- **Tri-City Community Carol Concert: Sunday, December 11th @ 7pm St Paul United**

**Methodist Church Papillion**

- **Trinity Intergenerational Christmas Celebration: Sunday, Dec 18<sup>th</sup> @ 10am**

## **Monthly Prayer service**

Join us for our Monthly Prayer Service on Wednesday, December 7th @ 6:45. This service will be held in the sanctuary on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month @ 6:45. This will co-inside with iWeb family nights and will serve as the conclusion to the evening. It will serve as the opening of choir with rehearsal immediately following the service.

## **Wednesday evening Adult Study**

*Our Wednesday Adult iWEB class is studying Mike Slaughter's, "Christmas is not Your Birthday". This study casts a vision for how Christians can experience the true joy of living and giving like Jesus beginning with the Christmas season and continuing as a lifestyle. Join us from 6-7pm in the parlor. Everyone is welcome.*

**Stan & I want to express our sincere thanks for the abundance of love, prayers, cards & thoughts expressed by our church family following tragic the loss of our daughter-in-law Denai. We so appreciate the many ways in which you celebrate with us. She loved the Lord & shared that with all of you each Sunday during worship. May we all radiate that kind of love out into the world!**

**In Christ's love,**

**Pam & Stan Vaughn**

Tom Buckley, Pastor  
Pam Vaughn, Dir. of Music Ministries  
Chris Arzoumanian, Office Manager  
Judy Slavik, Custodian  
Matthew Hindley Dir. Children's Ministry  
Megan Moslander  
Community Center Coordinator



# December Birthdays

Erin Gonzalez December 2  
Joe Hansler December 2  
Ron Hein December 2  
Michelle Morrissey December 3  
Tom Sullivan December 5  
Michael Bowker December 6  
Joann Krohn December 7  
John York December 7  
Kris Brown December 8  
Maxine Citta December 9  
Madeleine Lee December 10  
Greg Johnson December 12  
Casey Craven December 13  
Jeffrey Loveland December 13  
Josh Brown December 14  
Ruth Heyde December 14  
Susan Jasman December 14  
Latevi Lawson December 15

Payton Ryan December 15  
Bob O'Reilly December 17  
Elsie Lawson December 20  
Amy Arzoumanian December 21  
Bette Fink December 22  
Isabella Rowley December 22  
Kellee Edgar December 24  
Carla Richards December 24  
Carl Citta December 25  
Emma Frazee December 26  
Pam Brown-Tritsch December 27  
Bob Price December 27  
Tom Buckley December 29  
Angela Gilbert December 29  
Blair Gobbett December 29  
Blair Gobbett December 29  
Katie Higgason December 29  
Bev Ambrosius December 31